(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides a firm allocation of 2125 MW from the Central Generating Stations (CGS) in Western Region (WR), Maharashtra has been allocated 24.5% (228.7 MW) out of the unallocated quota of CGS in WR as well as 80 MW from the unallocated/surrendered capacity in NTPC stations of Eastern Region.

(c) and (d) Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a State is in the purview of State Government/State Power Utility concerned. The Central Government however supplements the efforts of the State Government by way of capacity addition through the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs).

A capacity of 500 MW in State Sector and 1444 MW in Private Sector is planned to be added in Maharashtra during the Tenth Plan period. In addition, a capacity of 5367 MW is also planned in the Central Sector in the Western region for benefits of constituent States in WR. However, in September, 2001 Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) communicated to National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) that due to surplus power situation in the State till 2012, MSEB would not be availing power from any of the NTPC project planned in Tenth Plan. MSEB reviewed the position subsequently and have signed Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for availing power from Sipat-II and Vindhyachal Stage-III with NTPC in February, 2003. MSEB can also avail power from the three mega power projects (*viz.* Kahalgaon-II, Barh and North Karanpura) being set up by NTPC in the Eastern Region.

Activities of power racketeers

4296. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that power racketeers are financing unauthorized colonies in various parts of the country causing huge losses;

(b) if so, what are the estimated losses due to this; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent power thefts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) Several States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have already enacted the anti-theft legislations. The States of Maharashtra, Punjab, Bihar, Kerala and Gujarat have also taken steps in this direction. The Electricity Bill 2003, passed by the Lok Sabha and which is pending for consideration in the Rajya Sabha, provides a legal frame work for making theft of electricity a cognizable offence.

Shortage of power in Karnataka

4297. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of power in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the power generated by Karnataka State through its internal sources and total consumption, total supply of power from neighbouring States and Central grids;

(d) the details of power projects being run with the World Bank assistance in Karnataka for the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the details of concrete steps taken by Government to improve the supply of power in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Power supply position in Karnataka during March, 2003 and the year 2002-03 has been as under:-

Energy:

Period	Requirement (Million Unit)	Availability (Million Unit)	Surplus/Deficit (–)	
			(Million Unit)	(%)
2002-03	32249	29084	–3165	–9.8
March, 2003	3093	2756	–337	–10.9

Peak demand:

Period	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Met (MW)	Surplus/Deficit (–) (MW)	(%)
2002-03	6198	4805	–1393	–22.5
March, 2003	6198	4793	–1405	–22.7